



DHHS GAZETTE



January 2004

Indiana Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services

Volume XIV Number 1

AUTO VISOR CARD PROGRAM



Indiana DHHS would appreciate your feedback regarding a project that Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services in several states in the nation are taking up. The program involves a brightly colored card that is placed above the driver on the visor. When a Deaf or Hard of Hearing person who has this card is pulled over by law enforcement, they can pull out this brightly colored card and hand it to the officer along with their driver's license and registration. This card would state if the person was Deaf or Hard of Hearing to reduce confusion and may explain some important points on the back of the card on how to contact an interpreter, or other information yet to be decided.

This card would not be used until all law enforcement academies and state law enforcement agencies had received training from DHHS to recognize the color of the card, its meaning and importance. It would also only be a voluntary system, meaning that if you did not wish to have it, you would not be forced to use the card. The intention of this system would be to reduce problems when Deaf or Hard of Hearing persons are pulled over by state law enforcement officers. All persons who would want this card would have to contact DHHS to get one. Some proof of hearing status may be needed to ensure that the system is not abused.

A separate matter of a code used on the driver's license that would identify a person as Deaf or Hard of Hearing has also been brought up by the Indiana Bureau of Motor Vehicles and Indiana DHHS. We would like your feedback on this as well.

If you have thoughts or feelings on these matters, please send an email to dmtinsley@fssa.state.in.us or anyone at DHHS or call us at 1-800-962-8408 TTY or voice. We want to know what you think.

THE COLORS OF THE IIC

The Indiana Interpreter Certificate (IIC) program was designed to allow greater access to state government and other community needs for Deaf and Hard of Hearing persons who use interpreters. All IIC/EIC interpreters receive a colored wallet sized card and certificate so the public can identify them. The IIC uses four colors to designate four different types of certificates. The four types are:



PINK: The Educational Interpreter Certificate (EIC) for interpreters only in the educational setting. EIC holders are not allowed to work as community interpreters unless they also hold a certificate of another type.



WHITE: The Provisional Certificate for persons who have passed the written test for national interpreter certification and have graduated from an interpreter training or ASL studies program. This is good for five years only.



GRAY: The Grandfathered Interpretation Certificate for persons who have been working as interpreters prior to July 1, 1999 and can get an interpreting agency to send a letter of recommendation for their application.



GOLD: The Interpretation or Transliteration Certificate for persons who have passed one or more of the national interpreter certification exams. All Indiana certified interpreters are required to attend courses or workshops to earn Continuing Education Credits each year or they risk losing their certification.

Next time you use an interpreter, ask to see their Indiana Interpreter Certificate. According to the rule, they are to show their card upon request. In this way you will be aware of the kind of certificate your interpreter holds. If they do not have a certificate, they are not yet a part of this important system which ensures a minimum standard of quality to protect you from communication misunderstandings.

If you have a complaint against an interpreter, or wish to praise their good work, please have the name of the interpreter and specifics about the situation and send it to doliver2@fssa.state.in.us or call our office at the number below. If the interpreter is not certified by the state, we have no authority to act upon the complaint. So, best advice is: Don't accept an interpreter who isn't state certified.

Calendar of Events JANUARY

WORKSHOP:

January 29, 2004 - Thursday
"Is BiBi Working?"

Instructors: Diane Jones and David Geeslin

Time: 8:30 a.m. - 9:30 p.m.

or

6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

CEU: .1 DHHS: Cat. 2

Indiana School for the Deaf, Pre-School Bldg. Multi-Purpose Room
1200 E. 42nd St., Indianapolis, IN

Cost: 10.00/person

Contact Joyce Conner at 317-924-8416

or jconner@isfd.state.in.us

MEETINGS:

January 29, 2004 - Thursday
Community Agencies for the Deaf (CADs)

10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Glendale Public Library

6101 N. Keystone Ave.,

Indianapolis, IN

January 29, 2004 - Thursday
DHHS Advisory Committee (DAC)

1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Glendale Public Library

6101 N. Keystone Ave.,

Indianapolis, IN

DHHS Certification Stats

IIC Holders	195
EIC Holders	301
Total	496



402 W. Washington St., W-453, P.O. Box 7083,
Indianapolis, IN 46207-7083

TTY or Voice: (317) 232-1143

TTY or Toll free-Voice: 1-800-962-8408

FAX: (317) 233-1566

E-mail: jcooper@fssa.state.in.us

Website: <http://www.in.gov/fssa/dhhs>